From: Jacobsen, Susan
To: Ullenberg, Beth
Cc: Lesli Gray; Debra Bills; Clay Nichols
Subject: LPC parg follow up
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2018 12:56:23 PM

Hi Beth, Here's a couple of sentences highlight below per the RDs request to add language regarding RWP and other conservation efforts. Let me know if this is good or if you need anything further.

Lesser Prairie-chicken (LEPC; Tympanuchus pallidicinctus)

In the spring of 2015, the Service initiated development of an SSA as a means of informing future conservation actions for the LEPC. The SSA process uses the best available information and has included input from partners such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, State Agency partners, and other scientific experts, including members of the academic community, from across the species' five-state range (Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas). A petition to list the LEPC under the Endangered Species Act was submitted to the Service in September 2016. The Service made a positive 90-day petition finding in November 2016. Using the biological information the SSA Report presented, including fully evaluating future conservation efforts and threats, a recommendation that the LEPC warrants listing as threatened was made to the Department. The Service recognizes that long-term lesser prairie-chicken conservation relies on continued cooperation and coordination with State, Federal and private partners and strongly encourages continued participation in existing species conservation and monitoring activities which includes the Service-endorsed Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Range-wide Conservation Plan.

--

Susan Jacobsen
Division Chief, Classification and Restoration
Ecological Services, Southwest Region
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1306, Albuquerque, NM 87103-1306
505-248-6641; mobile 505-206-9845

For information on ESA Improvements/Species Status Assessments (SSAs) check out this link:
https://www.fws.gov/endangered/improving_esa/ssa.html